

BOLSOVER

SHROPSHIRE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

ON THE

HEALTH & SANITARY CONDITION

of the

URBAN DISTRICT OF BOLSOVER,

for the Year

1939.

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(DERBYSHIRE)



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Bolsover Urban District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1939.

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time).

DR. WILLIAM STRATTON, L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I., L.M.,
High Street, Bolsover. (Tel. No. 3 Bolsover).

(Also acts as Public Vaccinator and Public Assistance
Medical Officer for Parish of Scarcliffe, and Medical
Officer to the Post Office).

Deputy Medical Officer (Part-time).

DR. JOHN BENJAMIN MCKAY, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector (Full-time).

(Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and Inspector
under Shops Acts and Petroleum Acts).

ERNEST BOOTH, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
From 1st November, 1930.
Tel. No. 5 Bolsover.
(Council Offices).

Other Full-time Chief Officers of the Council.

Clerk and Accountant, etc.

W. VEEVERS (from Feb. 19th, 1934).

Surveyor and Housing Architect and Cleansing Supt.

SYDNEY HOTEN (from 12th August, 1919).

Collector—

G. H. HALEY (from 1st Feb., 1937).

Manager of Electricity Undertaking—

ARTHUR HODGSON (from 15th Sept., 1927).

Baths Superintendent—

HENRY SENIOR (from 20th July, 1925).

Urban District of Bolsover.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOLSOVER
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of your district for the year 1939.

The outstanding features were as follows :—

SEWERAGE.

The work of extension and remodelling at the Bolsover Sewage Works has been completed.

WATER.

A Filtration and Softening Plant has been erected and this was opened early in the year.

HOUSING.

Owing to the outbreak of War all housing was brought to a standstill.

OTHER SERVICES.

The Hornscroft Recreation Ground Scheme is now finished and the ground was opened early in the year by Her Grace the Duchess of Portland.

I desire to record my thanks to the Council and officials for their unfailing courtesy at all times.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. STRATTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Bolsover, June, 1940.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres)	4,526
Population (Census, 1931)	11,811
Population mid-year (Registrar-General) 1939	10,210
Average Population appropriate to the calculation of death rates (1939)	10,150
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939)	2,733
Rateable Value, 1939	£46,126
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1939	£167

Social Conditions.

These have been described in previous reports.

Vital Statistics.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births—				
Legitimate ..	161	90	71	Birth Rate 18.9
Illegitimate ..	8	3	5	
Still Births ..	6	4	2	Rate per 1,000 total births—34.3
Deaths	89	48	41	Death Rate 8.7

Deaths from puerperal causes (Heading 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General Short List) :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	1	5.5
No. 30. Other puerperal causes	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	1	5.5
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Death-Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	52.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	55.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—

Deaths from :—

Measles (all ages)	—
Whooping Cough (all ages)	3
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	1
Cancer (all ages).	8

	Death-rate per 1,000 Population.
Diarrhoea under 2 years	.09
Zymotic	.09
Phthisis	.29

SECTION B.

General Provisions of Health Services in the Area.

Public Health Offices—see front page.

Laboratory Facilities.

No changes or developments have been made in connection with laboratory facilities. The number of types of specimens dealt with by the County Laboratories were as follows :—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Enterica—			
Gaertner, Dysentery, etc.	—	1	1
Diphtheria	79	86	165
Phthisis	1	8	9
Water	6	9	15
Miscellaneous	—	6	6
Milk for Bacterial Content	—	8	8
Milk for Bacillus Coli.	—	6	6
	<hr/> 86	<hr/> 124	<hr/> 210

Ambulance facilities in the Area.

The ambulance services provided are adequate for the needs of the district and were fully described in my report for last year. During the year ending 31st March, 1940, the ambulance had been in use 123 times.

There have been no changes or developments in the following Services :—

- Nursing in the Home.
- Clinics and Treatment Centres.
- Hospitals.

Mortuary and Post Mortem Room.

A properly equipped Mortuary and Post Mortem Room has been provided at the Council's Depot in Church Street.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. (i.) Water.

The water for the District is derived from two sources (1) the TUNNEL on the L.N.E. Railway and (2) the WELL at Whaley. The natural water is hard and chemically and bacteriologically pure after softening. During the whole of the year a full supply was available to the district. The supply is satisfactory in both quality and quantity.

There is a piped supply throughout the district.

The ferro-concrete Water Tower erected on land adjoining the cross-roads at Hillstown gives an additional storage capacity of 150,000 gallons. The storage capacity at the old Hillstown tank is 64,000 gallons.

The Water on periodical Analysis both bacteriologically and chemically proved satisfactory.

The Kennicott Base Exchange Water Softening Plant in use at the Water Tower effectively softens the water, and is capable of bringing the hardness down to zero.

As from the 1st April, 1933, the Water Works were taken over by the Chesterfield and Bolsover Water Board.

(ii.) Drainage and Sewerage.

The Council's sewage works at Bolsover and Shuttlewood have had capacity increased and now maintain high standard of efficiency.

The whole of the district has been sewered with the exception of a few isolated houses and farms.

35 Cesspools are in use for house drainage. There are also 40 cesspools for the Land Settlement houses ; the Estate Warden looks after the emptying of these.

75 house drains have been tested, 12 defects were found and remedied. Baths are in process of being put into each house owned by the Bolsover Colliery Co., Ltd., at New Bolsover.

Closet Accommodation.

Houses in the district with the exception of about 13 are provided with separate closet accommodation. 7 more Patent Elsan closets have been installed. During the year there were no conversions. There have been 1,212 privies and pail closets converted into water closets during the past 14 years (ending 31st December, 1939).

The following is the approximate number of closets, etc., in use at the end of 1939.

Water closets	.....	2658
Pail closets	.....	40
Privies	.....	85
Ashbins	.....	2662
Dry Ashpits	.....	101
Wet Ashpits	.....	16
Elsan Closets (4 of these are in A.R.P. Shelters in the Hornscliffe)	.....	11

(ii.) Public Cleansing.

The Council carry out the direct collection and disposal of house refuse for the whole of their district, and the work is done very efficiently.

The method of collection and disposal is as follows :—

Dry House Refuse.

COLLECTION.—This refuse is removed by a low loading covered-in Motor Refuse Collector. Where possible a small truck with rubber tyred wheels is used to convey the bin to the cart. This saves damage to the bins and strain on the men. The ashbins are emptied weekly.

DISPOSAL.—The collected refuse is disposed of at six tips, two of which are outside the district. These tips are under the control of the Council and are kept in good order, and as far as possible free from any nuisance, and away from any dwelling houses.

The controlling method of tipping is in operation on all the tips, and soil has been deposited on the completed portion of the tips.

Earth Closets and Privies.

COLLECTION.—Privies are emptied monthly, the refuse being placed direct into a water-proof cart. After cleansing, the receptacles receive a liberal dusting with disinfectant powder. These privies are being abolished under the Conversions Scheme as quickly as possible.

DISPOSAL.—The refuse is carted on to farm lands away from all houses and water courses, and in suitable cases is immediately covered with soil or ploughed in.

Cesspools.

CLEANSING.—Cesspools are emptied once a week by baling the contents into special tumbler carts with a bucket. These are being abolished wherever practicable.

DISPOSAL.—The contents are emptied into the nearest convenient sewer manhole by means of drawing a suction plug from the bottom of the tumbler cart.

Pail Closets.

COLLECTION.—Pail Closets are emptied twice a week direct into special watertight container, the container is lifted to the Motor Lorry, and the pails are disinfected.

DISPOSAL.—The pail contents are taken to the sewage works for disposal. The work is done between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Market.

Bins are provided for the refuse. The waste paper, etc. is conveyed to the incinerator on the Limekiln Fields refuse tip to be dealt with.

Generally.

The amount of house refuse collected is heavy, accounted for by coal mining being the chief trade of the district. Householders are requested to burn what refuse they can instead of depositing it in the receptacle.

The following return shews the loads of refuse removed during the past year :—

Tons removed from	Ashbins	.....	5199
do.	do.	Dry Ashpits	84
do.	do.	Wet Ashpits	91
do.	do.	Pail Closets	132
do.	do.	Cesspools	1262
Total tons of House Refuse removed			6768

(iii.) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following report of your Sanitary Inspector shows the work carried out in the Public Health Department during the year in the removal of nuisances and insanitary conditions :—

Report of Sanitary Inspector for Year 1939

	Number of Inspections made by S.I.	Number of Notices served Informal.	Number of Nuisances abated with or without Legal Notice
Closets and Ashpits—			
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (not for Conversion)	15	1	1
Conversion of Privies into Water Closets	4	—	—
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s	—	—	—
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets	—	—	—
Defective Water Closets	67	32	35
Provision of Additional W.C.'s	33	3	3
Provision of Portable Ashbins	186	84	127
Dirty Closets	29	14	14

	Number of Inspections made by S.I.	Number of Notices served Informal.	Number of Nuisances abated with or without Legal Notice
Drainage—			
No Disconnection of Waste Pipe	36	4	8
Defective Waste Pipe	123	34	44
„ Traps			
„ Inlets and Drains			
Drains Obstructed	225	125	165
Other Defects—			
Paving of Courts and Yards	207	39	39
Eaves-Spouts	287	101	131
Roofs			
Down-Spouts			
Sinks	86	38	36
Insufficient Ventilation	91	27	18
Windows	125	74	66
Dampness	301	131	132
Water in Cellars	8	2	2
Water Supply	38	15	12
Overcrowding	102	2	2
Foul Condition of Houses	30	12	12
Offensive Accumulations	21	6	6
Animals improperly kept	14	3	3
Pigsties	16	2	2
Smoke Nuisances, etc.	14	—	—
(see Colliery Tip Fires)			
Urinals	16	3	3
Nuisances not specified above	261	66	127
TOTALS	2035	816	1081

	Number on Register	Inspections made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances abated with or without Notices.
Dairies, Cowsheds and				
Milkshops	51	171	11	53
Bakehouses	2	15	3	8
Slaughterhouses	9	789*	5	16
Offensive Trades	16	86	5	18
TOTALS	78	1061	24	93

*Visits for Meat inspection included.

(iv.) Smoke Abatement, also Colliery Tips.

The district has suffered from atmospheric impurities from the burning tips at Markham Collieries which are outside the Boundary. During the year 14 visits have been made regarding Bolsover and Oxcroft Tips. These have been kept well under control.

(v.) Special Classes of Premises and Occupations subject to control by the local authority.

OFFENSIVE TRADES :—15 fish-fryers and 1 rag and bone dealer constitute the 16 Offensive Trades in the district. 86 inspections were made of the various premises, 18 defects found and dealt with.

HOUSE LET IN LODGINGS : None in the district.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES : None in the district.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.—There are 17 living vans and temporary bungalows in the districts. 85 visits were paid to these and perambulating vans during the year. 2 vans, etc., have been disused or removed from the Urban District during the year.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES :—Private slaughter-houses number 9. 2 are registered ; 6 permanently licensed ; and 1 annually licensed. 789 inspections were made. 16 defects found and dealt with. The slaughter-houses have been kept generally in a satisfactory condition. There is no public slaughter-house in the district.

KNACKER'S YARD :—There is one Knacker's Yard in the district, which is subject to an annual licence. 36 visits were paid to it, four nuisances found and dealt with. The premises are situated in an isolated position and away from dwelling-houses.

UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS : None in the district.

3. Schools.

There are 6 public elementary schools in the district. Also 1 private school, and the Church Hall is used for Cooking lessons.

All have the public water supply laid on, and all are provided with water closets and ashbins for refuse storage. The Sanitary condition of the Schools is good.

The County Education Committee erected new schools in New Station Road and Welbeck Road.

9 visits have been paid respecting sanitary conditions and 6 defects found and remedied. 6 schools were disinfected by the Public Health Department during the year. It was not found necessary to close any schools during the year on account of epidemic disease. 58 notifications were sent by the Health Department to the Education Authorities re infectious disease and the exclusion of children from school.

Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses.

Registered premises under the Factory and Workshops Acts number 24, including 2 bakehouses. 33 inspections were made, 6 defects found and dealt with. There are no out-workers in the district.

Rats and Mice Destruction Order.

Poison baits were laid at the Sewage Works and Refuse Tips in 1939. The County Council transferred the working of this Act to you during the year, since when 436 rats were destroyed at a cost of £5/14/9. Some of this number were destroyed free of cost.

Bed Bugs.

When any bed bugs are found the house is fumigated with Zaldecide and a sulphur compound by the Local Authority. 11 houses have been treated in the above manner during 1939. Two of these were Council houses. The house and belongings of tenants are examined before going into a Council house.

SECTION D.

Housing.

Number of Houses Inhabited at the end of 1939 ...	2733
Number of New Houses erected during 1939 :—	
(a) By Local Authority	—
(b) By Private Enterprise	17
	17

Housing Statistics for Year 1938.

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING YEAR.

- (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) and the number of inspections made 603/721
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses (included in (i.) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, and the number of inspections made 265/281
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 60
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 205

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	201
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3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the HOUSING ACT, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	11
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	13
(b) By local authority in default of owners.....	—

B.—Proceedings under PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	11
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	12
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.....	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the HOUSING ACT, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made including vans	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition order	2

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the HOUSING ACT, 1936.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | — |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | — |

Notices for consideration of Demolition Orders in respect to 3 dwellings were served and the result of the interviews were :—

To be reconditioned	3
No. demolished without an Order	1

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) **Milk Supply.**

There have been no complaints with regard to the wholesomeness of the Milk produced within or brought into the district, or to the general arrangements for the supply and distribution.

51 persons are registered as milk sellers, 25 being cow-keepers, dairymen and wholesale purveyors, and 20 retail purveyors. 13 persons are registered as purveyors of bottled milk.

11 of the registered milk sellers have their premises outside this district. During the year three persons have been registered and two farms have changed hands.

181 inspections of premises were made, 53 defects found and dealt with. Three Farms were re-modelled. It is pleasing to note that 7 farms are fitted with plant such as is required to produce Accredited Milk.

All cowsheds and dairies were cleansed and limewashed twice during the year.

26 samples of milk were obtained and tested for sediment. All were satisfactory.

(b) **Meat and other Foods.**

The class of meat offered for sale in this district by the local butchers continues to be of good quality, other foods are also of a good standard.

The meat and other foods which are brought into the district from other districts are also inspected at various intervals by your Sanitary Inspector. These also have been found to be of good quality.

Under the Shops Acts, close watch has been made regarding making sales after closing time, also regarding The Butchers Closing Order.

1,182 visits to slaughter-houses, shops, stalls and 12 to house-holders premises (used for occasional slaughter), have been made.

The following food was dealt with during the year :

Carcases examined :—Beasts, 425. Sheep, 1,211. Pigs, 969. Calves, 25. Unsound Meat surrendered : Beef, 105 stones, 13 lbs. Pork, 15 stone. Veal, None. The Beef concerns two whole beasts and part of one, all of which had Tuberculosis. The Pork concerns two whole pigs which had Tuberculosis.

Parts or Organs : Beast—Heads and Tongues, 10. Livers, 15. Hearts, 5. Kidneys, 6. Lungs, 7 pairs. Udders, 1 pair. Offal sets, 3. Fat, 16 stones, 4 lbs. Spleens, 3.

Parts or Organs :—Pigs : Heads, 10. Plucks, 7. Kidneys, 4. Offal sets, 2. Fats, 5 stones, 7 lbs.

The parts and organs were affected by : 1 Beast's Head and Tongue, Actinomycosis ; 6 Beasts' Livers, Abscesses ; 1 Beast's Liver, Pyaemia ; 3 Beast's Livers, Cirrhosis ; 5 Beast's Livers, Necrosis ; 1 Beast's Spleen, Abscess. The remaining parts and organs were tuberculosis.

Slaughter on Unlicensed premises—Visits, 12.

Carcases examined :—Pigs, 14.

Food surrendered as unsound and unwholesome :—

Fish	.....	22 stone.
Rabbits	.....	14.
Tomatoes	.....	82 lbs.
Strawberries	.....	61 lbs.
Apples	.....	24 lbs.
Tinned food	.....	31 containers.

Chemical and Bacteriological examination of Food :—

The following information has been kindly supplied by the County Analyst upon samples analysed by him and taken within the Urban District of Bolsover under the Sale of Food and Drug Acts during the past year.

Total samples	.....	69
Milk Samples	.....	27

1 prosecution resulted. 26 samples were all genuine.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and control over Infectious and other Diseases.

In this report is a table setting out the number of cases notified, number removed to hospital, and the deaths.

No Clinics for Schick testing and immunization against diphtheria have been started in this district. Antitoxin is supplied free to the medical practitioners and in all cases it is given promptly.

No action has been taken in regard to the use of measles serum for prophylaxis or attenuation.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1939.

DISEASE.	AGE GROUPS.											Total	
	Under 1 year.	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—		65—
Smallpox	—
Scarlet Fever	12
Diphtheria	100
Enteric Fever (including para-typhoid)	..	2	3	4	8	55	15	5	4	3	1	..	—
Puerperal Fever	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	..	..	..	1
Pneumonia ..	5	..	3	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	3	2	17
Encephalitis Lethargica	—
Erysipelas	1	1	2	..	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	..	1	1	..	..	3
Other Forms	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—
Acute Ant. Poliomyelitis	—
Malaria	—
	6	2	8	6	10	60	21	6	9	6	6	2	142

4. (a) Cancer.

This disease caused 8 deaths during 1939. Improved facilities for diagnosis probably account for the increased number of cases.

Radium is available at Chesterfield and Sheffield Hospitals, but I am not so far very satisfied with the results.

4. (b) Prevention of Blindness.

Any required action, under Section 66, Public Health Amendment Act, 1925, taken by the County Council.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Table showing cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during the past five years :

Year.	Cases.			Vision unimpaired.	Vision im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Notified	Treated.					
		Home	Hospital				
1935
1936
1937	1	..	1	1	..	..	..
1938
1939

During the year 237 houses and 6 schools were disinfected following infectious diseases. 1,603 householders were supplied with disinfectants and 84 Public Library Books disinfected or destroyed.

4. (c) Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during 1939.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1 and under 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5 " 10	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
10 " 15	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..
15 " 20	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
20 " 25	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
25 " 35	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
35 " 45	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45 " 55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55 " 65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and over	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Totals ..	2	2	1	3	—	3	—	—

Factories and Workshops Acts.

Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses, Laundries, Work-places and Home work.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories	11	.....
Workshops	16	.....
Work places .....	.....	.....
	27	.....

2.—DEFECTS.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness	3	3
Sanitary Defects or Nuisances	2	2
Sanitary Accommodation Defects .....	.....	.....
	5	5

3.—HOME WORK.

There are no Outworkers in the District to which the
Act applies.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Number of Workshops on the Register at end of year	20
Number of Workshops registered during year	—
Number of Bakehouses on Register at end of year	2
Number of Bakehouses registered during year	—
Number of Prosecutions	nil
Defects referred to H.M. Inspector	nil
Number of notifications received from H.M. Inspector	nil

